

Appln. Serial No. **10/501,492**  
Response to October 5, 2005 Office Action/Restriction Requirement  
Response dated: November 3, 2005

B-7195

TFW  
1734



In re Application of:

Florenz Kopp

Serial No.: 10/501,492

National Phase Application in the United States corresponding to:

International Application No. PCT/EP03/01742

International Filing Date: February 20, 2003

Claiming a priority date of March 5, 2002;

For: CONVEYORIZED HORIZONTAL PROCESSING LINE AND METHOD  
OF WET-PROCESSING A WORKPIECE

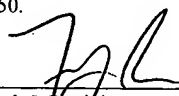
Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence and the documents referred to as attached therein are being deposited today with the United States Postal Service as first-class, postage-prepaid mail in an envelope addressed to the: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

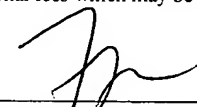
11/03/05  
Date

  
Frank J. Bonini  
Reg. No. 35,452

AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required by this paper and during the pendency of this application to Account No. 05-0208.

11/03/05  
Date

  
Frank J. Bonini  
Reg. No. 35,452

RESPONSE

In response to the restriction requirement stated in the Official Action dated  
October 5, 2005, Applicant provisionally elects Claim Group I drawn to Claims 1-12.

Applicant respectfully traverses the outstanding requirement for restriction, and respectfully requests that it be withdrawn for the following reasons.

Applicant maintains that the relationship among the apparatus (Claim Group I) and the processing method (Claim Group II) is a close one.

The fact that the claims of the different claim groups may be in separate classes or subclasses does not of itself warrant restriction, since the purpose of classifying patents is not to establish lines of division between claims, and the Patent Office classification does not necessarily follow the lines established by manufacturers and inventors.

As the M.P.E.P. Section 803 provides:

If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions.

Inclusion of more than one claim group in this application would appear to promote purposes of economic efficiency, for both the Patent Office and the Applicant.

If necessary, an appropriate extension of time to respond is respectfully requested.

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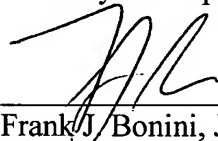
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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to the Patent Office Deposit Account No. 05-0208.

Respectfully submitted,  
HARDING, EARLEY, FOLLMER & FRAILEY  
Attorneys for Applicant



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Date: 11/03/05